952-912-0574

SERIAL NO. 09/724007

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Kurk, et al.

Examiner:

Stefan Staicovici

Serial No.:

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Group Art Unit:

1732

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Docket No.:

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Title:

MANDREL FOR DIP COATING POLYMER VALVE PROSTHESES

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION: I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING FACSIMILE TRANSMITTED TO THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, FAX NO. (703) 872-9311, ON OCTOBER 6, 2003.

DAVID H. CARROLL NAME OF PERSON SIGNING THIS CERTIFICATE

## AMENDMENT/REPLY SUBMITTED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED **EXAMINATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.114**

Sir:

This Reply is submitted with an RCE and is responsive to the final Office action dated December 4, 2002. A Notice of Appeal was filed on June 4, 2003, setting a two month shortened statutory period for filing an Appeal Brief that is extended an additional two months pursuant to the Petition that accompanies this Reply, thereby setting a new shortened statutory period that expires October 6, 2003 (October 4th and 5th being weekend days). An Amendment to the Specification begins on page 2. Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3. Remarks begin on page 7 following the listing of claims. This Reply contains no amendments to the drawings. Further examination and reconsideration respectfully are requested.

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Page 1

Docket Number: 01610.0058-US-01 Submission Accompanying RCE